impending, while the sufferer tossed from side to side, gasping in the deepest anguish for breath. During this time, his hand was riveted to the region of the stomach as the principal seat of pain; the palate and interior of the mouth were burned, and presented a parboiled appearance.

Under these circumstances, the first indication of treatment was to neutralize the *muriatic acid*, and to precipitate the iron. Upon instant search, I found a dozen soda powders belonging to a lady then on a visit. Rejecting the blue or tartaric acid papers, I dissolved the twelve alkaline or soda powders in a jug of tepid water. This I passed down the throat from a large spoon, as fast as possible, until abundant effervescence commenced in the stomach, like a fermenting vat, and carried up its foaming contents, mixed with carbonate of iron, slimy mucus, and skinny membranes. The alkaline solution was given as long as any acid continued to be discharged. The copious effervescence served the purpose of bringing up the contents of the stomach with the drinks and diluents, which were abundantly supplied at intervals. When the acid tincture was thus decomposed, and the vomiting ceased, an emulsion, composed of olive oil and white of egg, blended with sugar and water, was then administered, and three pints of similar emulsion also thrown up by *enema*. Soon after, he swallowed a *castor-oil mixture*, also blended with white of egg. During the first two hours, the pulse remained very feeble, the skin being cold and clammy, the face swollen and livid; but now, the pulse beat more quickly and strongly, reaction was setting in, the breathing, particularly the inspirations, became oppressive, and the sense of burning and constriction in the throat extremely severe. The unhappy patient was gasping in the greatest agony, and the noise of breathing resembled that of a bad case of croup. Finding the pulse still rising, and the pain more acute in the stomach and throat, I opened a vein in the arm. The blood was remarkably *black*, and so *thick* and viscid that it would not flow until I cut a much larger orifice in another vein, when a great quantity of blood (which resembled molasses) was abstracted, relaxation ensued, slight perspiration broke out, and the bowels began to operate. The arm was then bound up, and upon examining the night-chair, nearly two quarts of *inky evacuation* had passed off, mixed with emulsions, ropy jelly, and the carbonate of iron, precipitated in the stomach by the soda.

These operations relieved the burning of the stomach, but the croupy noise and obstruction of respiration in the throat became so much aggravated, and the inflammation seemed extending to such a degree, as seemed to require an artificial opening into the trachea. At twelve o'clock I applied three dozen leeches to the front of the neck, the castor-oil again acted, and about a pint of irony, glairy slime came away, when the pulse began to subside. By keeping the neck bleeding by aid of fomentations, the swelling of the palate diminished, and the respiration became less difficult. The stomach still remaining acutely tender, forty-eight leeches were applied to the epigastrium. At one o'clock the suffocation was less threatening, and the tossing and alarm subsided so far as to permit some moments of rest; fomentations were continued to the regions of the stomach and throat, and the breathing becoming still more easy, he had short intervals of sleep. About three o'clock some sago remained upon the stomach; the anguish of the countenance now gradually disappeared; the inflammation of the mouth, tongue, and palate abated; and at four P. M., the surgeon-general and Dr. O'Grady, the medical gentlemen who had been summoned from Dublin, arrived, and had only to congratulate the worthy baronet upon his narrow escape. Mild treatment soon restored this excellent gentleman to his friends and society.—*Dublin Med. Press*, Feb. 21, 1849.

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73. *Effects of the Use of Arsenic in Agriculture. Poisoned Game.*—Dr. FULLER, of St. George's Hospital, has recently called attention to the probably injurious effects resulting from the use of arsenic in steeping seed corn.

"For some months past," says Dr. Fuller, "in certain parts of Hampshire partridges have been found dead in the fields, presenting a very remarkable appearance. Instead of lying prostrate on their side, as is usually the case with dead birds, they have been found sitting with their heads erect and their eyes open, presenting all the semblance of life. This peculiarity, which for some time had attracted considerable attention among sportsmen in the neighbourhood, led to no practical result until about ten days ago, when a covey of ten birds having been found nestled together in this condition, two of the birds, together with the seeds taken from the crops of the remaining eight, were sent up to London for examination. I was requested to undertake the investigation, and the result of my experiments I will now briefly detail.

"I first examined the seeds taken from the crops of the birds, and detected, as I anticipated, a large quantity of arsenic. I then proceeded to ascertain whether the flesh of birds so poisoned might not itself prove poisonous when eaten, and with this view I carefully cut the flesh off the breast and legs of one of the birds, and gave it, together with the liver, to a fine healthy cat. She ate it with avidity, but in about half an hour she began to vomit, and vomited almost incessantly for nearly twelve hours, during the whole of which time she evidently suffered excessive pain. After this nothing would induce her to eat any more partridge. I kept her without food for twenty-four hours, but in vain; she resolutely refused to touch an atom more of the bird. This being the case, I gave her some beef and some milk, which she eagerly swallowed—proving, beyond doubt, that her instinct, and not her want of appetite, induced her to forego the dainty meal which had just been offered her.

"I cut the flesh off one side of the breast of the other partridge, and, after about an hour's boiling, obtained, by Reinsch's process, a thin incrustation of metallic arsenic—thus demonstrating, beyond question, what the previous experiments had left little room for doubting.

"It is notorious that many of the dealers in game are supplied through the agency of poachers and others, who have a direct pecuniary interest in supplying them with the largest possible number of birds. It is certain, moreover, that, if men of this sort were to find a covey of partridges in a field, dead, but fresh and in good condition, they would not hesitate to send them with the remainder of their booty to the poulterer, who would as certainly, without suspicion, sell them to his customers. And, after the experiments above detailed, there can be no reasonable grounds for doubting that these birds, when eaten, would produce disagreeable and injurious, not to say poisonous, effects on those who partake of them. It is obvious, therefore, that in all cases of supposed cholera, or of suspicious bellyache, occurring at this season of the year, we shall do well to make particular inquiry as to whether our patient has recently partaken of pheasants or partridges purchased at a poulterer's; and it is further manifest that, in all cases of poisoning, or suspected poisoning by arsenic, the fact of the persons having lately eaten of partridges and pheasants must form an important element in the inquiry, and must tend to cast a suspicion on the evidence adduced to prove a criminal intent in the administration of the poison. So that, in a medico-legal point of view, the question is one of the gravest import.—*Lancet.*

[The subject to which Dr. Fuller has very properly called attention has been pretty fully discussed by Mr. Taylor, in his recently published work on poisons. Mr. Taylor had found arsenic in the flesh of game which had been poisoned by steeped corn, and arrived at the same conclusions as Dr. Fuller. The subject has also been investigated in France, where a commission was appointed by the Academy of Sciences to prosecute an inquiry as to whether the flesh of sheep suffering from the effects of arsenic was poisonous. It was ascertained that the flesh of poisoned animals is noxious; but if they live sufficiently long, the whole of the arsenic is voided in the urine and feces, and the flesh may then be eaten with impunity.]—*Ph. Journ.*, Jan. 1849.